CHAPTER 6:
MOM GETS IN
A WRECK

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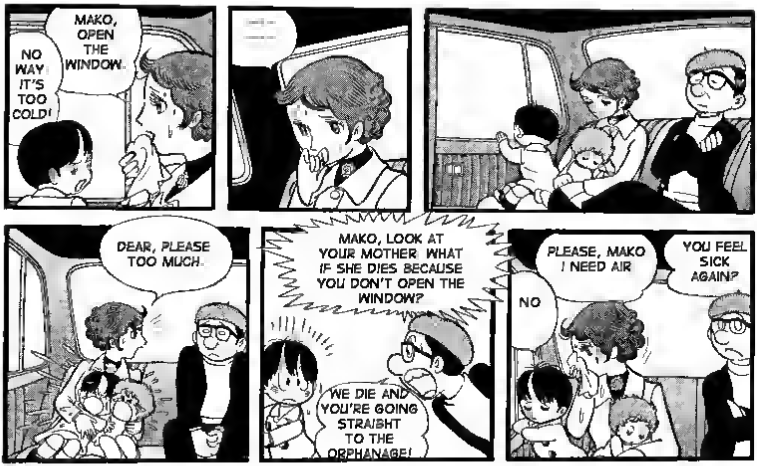
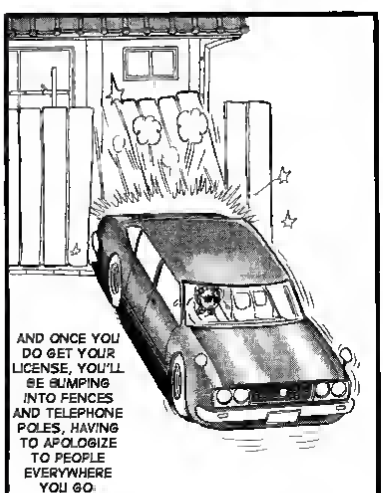

MAKO, OPEN THE WINDOW.
NO WAY! IT'S TOO COLD!
DEAR, PLEASE TOO MUCH.
MAKO, LOOK AT YOUR MOTHER. WHAT IF SHE DIES BECAUSE YOU DON'T OPEN THE WINDOW?
WE DIE AND YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO THE ORPHANAGE!
PLEASE, MAKO I NEED AIR
NO
YOU FEEL SICK AGAIN?

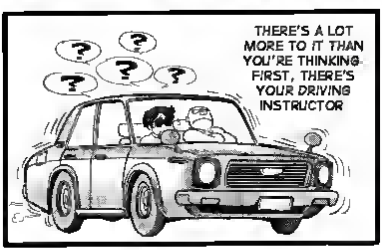
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO DRIVE A CAR?
YOU WANT TO GET A LICENSE? YOU CAN'T BE INSIDE A CAR FOR THREE MINUTES WITHOUT BEING CARSICK!

YOU WHAT?!
I'VE BEEN THINKING RECENTLY I'D LIKE TO GET A LICENSE

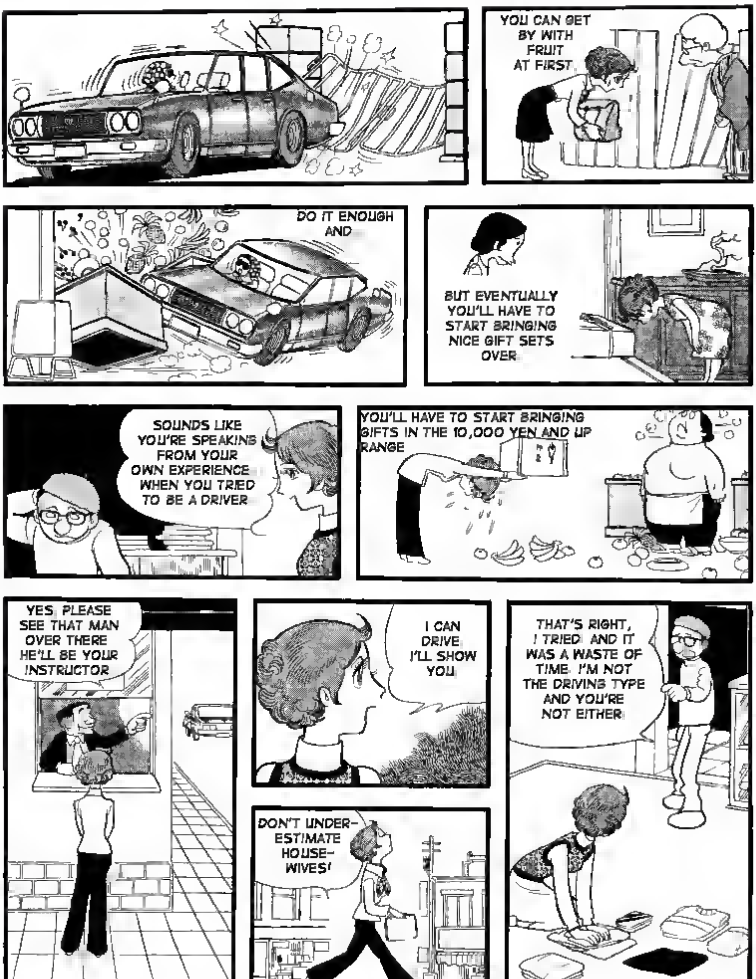
I THINK IT WOULD BE NICE FOR WHEN I NEED TO GO SHOPPING
LEARNING TO DRIVE ISN'T LIKE LEARNING TO COOK OR LEARNING HOW TO PLAY GOLF. YOU COULD KILL YOURSELF!

I WANT TO DRIVE TO HELP GET OVER ALWAYS BEING CARSICK


AND ONCE YOU DO GET YOUR LICENSE, YOU'LL BE BUMPING INTO FENCES AND TELEPHONE POLES, HAVING TO APOLOGIZE TO PEOPLE EVERYWHERE YOU GO.


THERE'S A LOT MORE TO IT THAN YOU'RE THINKING. FIRST, THERE'S YOUR DRIVING INSTRUCTOR

YOU'LL BE CRYING TO ME ABOUT HOW TRAGIC YOUR LIFE IS EVERY NIGHT.
TRY GOING AND GETTING YELLED AT EVERYDAY.
SOME OF THEM ARE JUST SADISTS


YOU CAN GET BY WITH FRUIT AT FIRST
DO IT ENOUGH AND
BUT EVENTUALLY YOU'LL HAVE TO START BRINGING NICE GIFT SETS OVER
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE SPEAKING FROM YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU TRIED TO BE A DRIVER
YOU'LL HAVE TO START BRINGING GIFTS IN THE 10,000 YEN AND UP RANGE
YES, PLEASE SEE THAT MAN OVER THERE HE'LL BE YOUR INSTRUCTOR
I CAN DRIVE I'LL SHOW YOU
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE HOUSE-WIVES!
THAT'S RIGHT, I TRIED AND IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME I'M NOT THE DRIVING TYPE AND YOU'RE NOT EITHER

DID YOU COME HERE TO LEARN HOW TO DRIVE OR JUST TO PLAY AROUND? GET OUT OF THE CAR!
TRY COMING BACK WHEN YOU'RE SERIOUS!
TO THINK YOU WANT TO BE OUT ON THE ROAD! I CAN'T PUT YOU OUT THERE! I'D BE A MURDERER!
COME ON NOW. NO NEED TO BE SCARED.
I THINK THERE'S PLENTY OF NEED TO BE SCARED!
YOU MEAN WHAT YOU JUST SAW? DON'T WORRY. JUST MY WIFE!
NO THANK YOU I'M FINE
HEY! YOU'RE NEXT, RIGHT? GET OVER HERE!
EEK!!
NEXT!

ACTUALLY, THAT'S JUST LIKE ME
SHE'S JUST SOME HOUSEWIFE WITH FREE TIME. I KNOW YOU'RE NOT LIKE HER. DON'T WORRY.
TELLS ME SHE'S GOING TO PROVE ME WRONG AND DRIVE ANYWAY
I TOLD HER SHE'S NOT THE DRIVING TYPE. SOME PEOPLE AREN'T MEANT FOR IT, YOU KNOW?
BUT SHE'S GOT SOME ATTITUDE.
RIGHT. FIRST, THERE'S THE ACCEL. THERE'S THE CLUTCH.
COULD WE... START THE LESSON?
I CAN UNDERSTAND SOMEONE LIKE YOURSELF WANTING TO DRIVE, THOUGH. A CAR IS LIKE A NICE PURSE.
YOU'RE SO YOUNG! YOU'RE MARRIED?
REALLY?
ARE YOU FREE RIGHT NOW?
MAYBE I COULD GIVE YOU LESSONS AFTER YOU GET YOUR LICENSE.
I HADN'T IMAGINED IT WOULD BE THIS EASY.
THERE YOU GO. YOU'RE GETTING THE HANG OF IT.
HOW ABOUT RIGHT OVER THERE?
JUST WANT TO GIVE YOU A FEW MORE TIPS.
IT'S TIME FOR MY BREAK ANYWAY.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A PRO! I TELL YOU, YOU MAKE MY JOB EASY TOO.

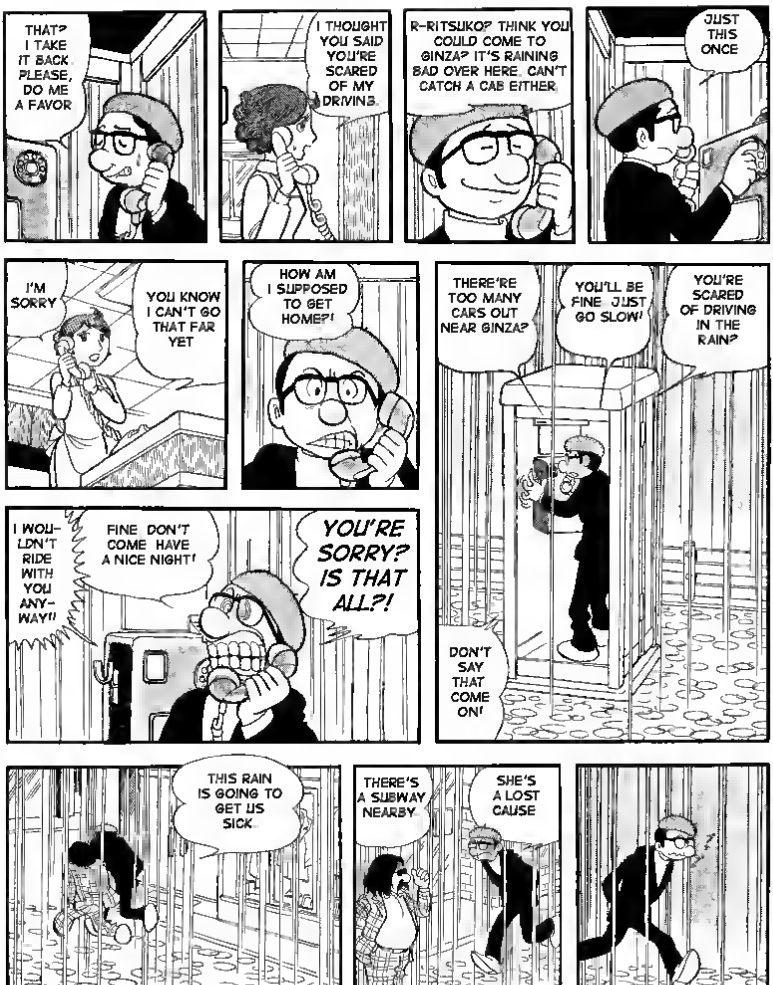
YOU CALLED THAT DRIVING? WHAT ARE YOU, A CHILD?! CHRIST!
自動車
IT'LL ONLY BE A MINUTE. IT'S RIGHT THERE.
I THINK I SHOULD GET BACK TO MY CHILDREN.
LET'S HOPE I GET SOME-ONE DIFFE-RENT TOMOR-ROW.
THAT WAS STRA-NGE.
CAN'T JUST WALTZ IN HERE AND BECOME A PRO!
NEXT!
LISTEN, DRIVING TAKES EFFORT.
'IS UN 'IS UN, 'ERE! UH?!
HMF. GRIB 'A BREAK
THANK GOODNESS. IT'S NOT THE SAME PERSON.
YUR SUNNA THIT HUR AND WHITS YOU WIT' TAGWIT" HRM?!
?
?
DON'TCHA 'NZAT NO, NOPE NO WHMIT"
THUR' ANDA PIXIN THIS HUR TAKEA RIC' STIM!
—COULD YOU SAY THAT AGAIN?
TURN IN' 'KE THIT N'JILL GET BICK WHAT THAT'S WHERE.

HOW ABOUT A CUP OF COFFEE?
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR TODAY.
I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO GO CRAZY.
HE'S NEW HERE. JUST CAME FROM THE COUNTRY-SIDE.
I'D HATE TO NEVER SEE YOU AFTER OUR LESSONS ARE OVER.
US MEETING LIKE THIS
I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT A HANDSOME BUNCH THOUGH, LIKE THEIR MOTHER.
OH, STOP IT.
YEAH. JUST ONE. HE'S A LITTLE BRAT.
DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN?
THINK ABOUT WHAT I'M SAYING THOUGH. LET'S REALLY GO SOMETIME.
I NEED TO GO
MY CHILDREN ARE ABOUT TO GET HOME.
JUST THE TWO OF US?
HOW ABOUT WE TAKE A LITTLE DRIVE THIS WEEKEND? THE TREES OUT IN MITO ARE SPLENDID THIS TIME OF YEAR.
YOU... DON'T THINK WE'D TAKE OUR KIDS WITH US, WOULD YOU?
I'D BE MORE SCARED OF YOU THEN THE ACCIDENT.
IF YOU EVER HAPPEN TO GET IN AN ACCIDENT, ALWAYS FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL. I'LL LOOK OUT FOR YOU.

THE MORE REAL THIS GETS THE MORE TERRIFYING I REALIZE IT IS...
YOU?
I'M EVEN GOING TO DRIVE THERE!
I'VE ALREADY GOT MY PERMIT
I'M GOING FOR MY LESSON.
YOU'RE STILL TAKING LESSONS? DON'T YOU THINK IT'S TIME TO QUIT?
...DO I HAVE TO?
I CAN DRIVE JUST FINE. GET IN AND SEE!
STOP MAKING FUN!
ガシ
JUST BE QUIET AND GET IN.
100 METERS AND THAT'S IT.
REVERSE! REVERSE!!
WATCH OUT FOR THAT BIKE!

YOU'RE RIGHT. YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT.
WATCH OUT, WILL YA? YA CAN'T JUST THROW YOUR CAR INTO REVERSE LIKE THAT
I THINK WE'RE OK, DEAR. HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE UPSET, WE DIDN'T EVEN SCRATCH HIM.
RITSUKO. GO BUY TWO CARTONS OF CIGARETTES.
HOLD ON
THANK GOODNESS.
WELL, THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY DAMAGE, SO...
YES, I DID!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT!
HMM? OH OK, THANKS.
HERE AS A SIGN OF APOLOGY
TWO CARTONS OF NUMBER 12
たばこ
CIGARETTES
WHY'D YOU MAKE HER GET A LICENSE THEN?
NO RESPECT AT ALL.
NO RESPECT.
THIS ACCIDENT WAS YOUR FAULT. YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE. NEXT TIME THIS HAPPENS I'M NOT GOING TO COVER FOR YOU!
OK. FINE

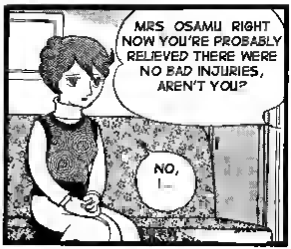
JUST CALL HER
I'D JUST BE CALLING THE DEATH-MOBILE
WE CAN WAIT HERE FOREVER, WE'RE NOT GOING TO PICK ANY-THING UP
THEY'RE ALL OCCUPIED, MAN. NOT GOING TO FIND A VACANT ONE THIS TIME OF NIGHT.
I'LL WAIT
THINK ABOUT THINGS THIS WAY. WE GO OUT LIKE THIS, WE CAN'T DRIVE HOME BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN DRINKING.
BUT YOU'VE GOT YOUR WIFE
I'M NOT ASKING HER TO DRIVE ME HOME
YOU CAN UTILIZE THAT, MAN. CALL HER TO COME PICK YOU UP.
I'D RATHER PAY THEM THEN BE IN DEBT TO HER
THINK OF HOW EXPEN-SIVE TAXIS ARE.
SOME-THING'LL COME BY.
MAN. RAINING HARD

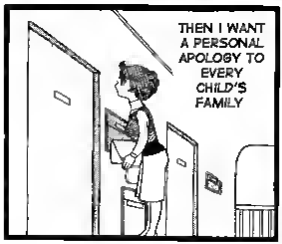

THAT? I TAKE IT BACK PLEASE, DO ME A FAVOR
I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU'RE SCARED OF MY DRIVING.
R-RITSUKO? THINK YOU COULD COME TO GINZA? IT'S RAINING BAD OVER HERE. CAN'T CATCH A CAB EITHER.
JUST THIS ONCE
I'M SORRY
YOU KNOW I CAN'T GO THAT FAR YET
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GET HOME?!
THERE'RE TOO MANY CARS OUT NEAR GINZA?
YOU'LL BE FINE. JUST GO SLOW!
YOU'RE SCARED OF DRIVING IN THE RAIN?
I WOULDN'T RIDE WITH YOU ANYWAY!!
FINE. DON'T COME. HAVE A NICE NIGHT!
YOU'RE SORRY? IS THAT ALL?!
DON'T SAY THAT. COME ON!
THIS RAIN IS GOING TO GET US SICK.
THERE'S A SUBWAY NEARBY.
SHE'S A LOST CAUSE

I'M GOING TO GO TO THE STORE WITH MAKO
GO AHEAD!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I GOT THAT SOAKED AND DIDN'T EVEN CATCH A COLD
ALL I'VE GOT IS THIS STUPID HANGOVER
MOMMY, YOU DRIVE TOO SLOW
IT'S GOOD TO DRIVE SLOW
YOU KNOW THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE, DON'T YOU?
THAT HARE DIDN'T WIN, DID HE?
BUT DIDN'T THE HARE LOSE BECAUSE HE HAD A HANGOVER, MOMMY?
WHO... WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
DAD
MOMMY! THERE'S A BUS!!
AH!!

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?!
IT WAS JUST TAKING SOME CHILDREN HOME
ARE YOU AND MAKO ALL RIGHT?!
A FEW CHILDREN ON THE BUS HAD SCRAPES
YES NO ONE WAS BADLY HURT
P-PRE SCH-OOL ?!
YOU HIT A BUS?
RITSUKO, I'M YOUR HUSBAND. LET ME HELP
NO LET ME TAKE CARE OF THIS MYSELF!
RIT-SUKO!
NO IT'S MY RESPONSI-BILITY I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT
R-RITSUKO IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANT ME TO DO?
THANK GOODNESS THAT WAS IT
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GO TO THE PRESCHOOL I'LL PROBABLY BE GETTING BACK LATE

THE TRAUMA THAT THOSE CHILDREN WENT THROUGH WILL BE WITH THEM THE REST OF THEIR LIVES. YOU REALIZE THAT, RIGHT?
WELL IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE!
YES.

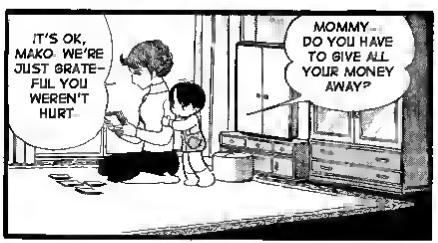

MRS. OSAMU. RIGHT NOW YOU'RE PROBABLY RELIEVED THERE WERE NO BAD INJURIES, AREN'T YOU?
NO, I—


THEN I WANT A PERSONAL APOLOGY TO EVERY CHILD'S FAMILY

YOU'LL PAY FOR REPAIRS ON THE BUS
I'LL DO ANYTHING I CAN.

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE CARE OF THIS WELL

THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S MOM-MY'S FAULT, MAKO
IS DADDY NOT GOING TO DO ANY-THING? YOU'RE DOING EVERYTHING


IT'S OK, MAKO. WE'RE JUST GRATE-FUL YOU WEREN'T HURT.
MOMMY— DO YOU HAVE TO GIVE ALL YOUR MONEY AWAY?

THANK YOU, THAT'S VERY KIND.
HERE. YOU CAN HAVE MY TOYS

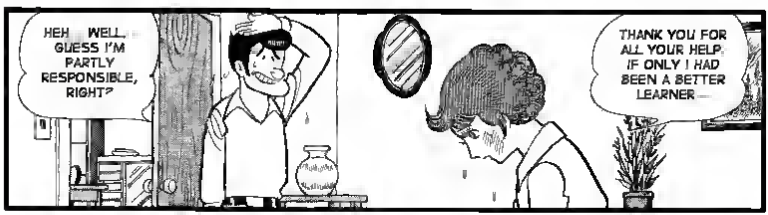
I'LL BE OK, MAKO. DON'T WORRY

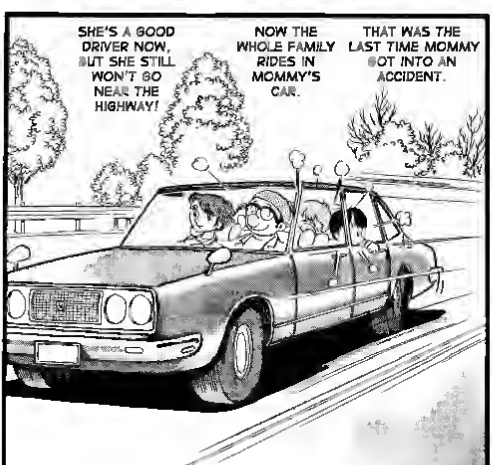
?!
BUT NOW HOW CAN YOU BUY TOYS?

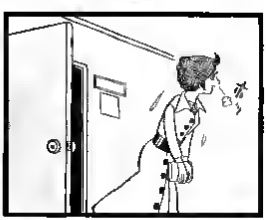
DADDY DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
MOMMY SAYS IT'S NOT HIS FAULT BUT I THINK HE COULD HELP A LITTLE
I HOPE I CAN BE LIKE MOMMY WHEN I GROW UP. I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY MYSELF.
SHE WENT TO THAT PRE-SCHOOL EVERY-DAY
SO MOM WORKED REALLY HARD.
SOMETIMES HE WATCHES MOMMY WHEN SHE GOES OUT. I THINK HE'S STILL REALLY CONCERNED.
HIS PARENTS ARE PROBABLY REALLY MAD AT MOM
MOMMY'S DONE WITH ALMOST ALL THE HOUSES. BUT THIS LAST ONE'S THE TOUGHEST. THIS KID HURT HIS LEG.
HER? SHE'S HERE? AT OUR HOUSE?
THAT LADY THAT THOUGHT SHE COULD DRIVE?
SOMEBODY SHOW ME THE GUY THAT TAUGHT HER. I'D GIVE HIM A PIECE OF MY MIND.
IT'S THAT LADY THAT HIT THE BUS!
DEEP BREATH
HEY. HOW ARE YOU FEELING? IS YOUR LEG OK?

THIS IS A SURPRISE
L-LONG TIME NO SEE

LIS TEN HERE


HEH WELL, GUESS I'M PARTLY RESPONSIBLE, RIGHT?
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP. IF ONLY I HAD BEEN A BETTER LEARNER


SHE'S A GOOD DRIVER NOW, BUT SHE STILL WON'T GO NEAR THE HIGHWAY!
NOW THE WHOLE FAMILY RIDES IN MOMMY'S CAR.
THAT WAS THE LAST TIME MOMMY GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT.



AW, SHUT UP.
YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE GOING TO LET HER HAVE IT